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'LAWLESS' NEEDS MORE ORDER {page 20}



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Tragedy marks fresh start to school year

- Columbia University freshman takes own life within days of arriving on campus
- Loved ones mourn death of young woman who loved writing and 'Twilight' {page 02}



► A student walks into John Jay Hall yesterday on Columbia University campus in Morningside Heights. A freshman, Martha Corey-Ochoa, inset, jumped to her death from the 14th floor of John Jay Hall late Monday night.

MILES DIXON/METRO

news



African leader on new power and prosperity

- Rwanda's president gives Metro exclusive interview
- Country seeks seat on UN Security Council {pages 12-13}

Lindsay Lohan: A theft suspect

This isn't a stock headline we use when laying out the paper, but it may as well be {page 16}



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In the news
Accidental role in 'Gossip Girl'

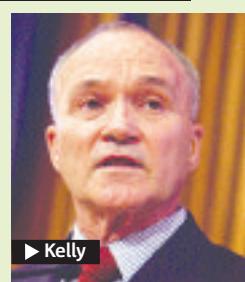
A tourist visiting from Australia last week snuck onto the set of "Gossip Girl" — and ended up playing the role of an extra. Kate Robertson, 26, snuck into the Waldorf Astoria on Aug. 21 where the show was filming. Crews working there mistook her for an extra and did her hair and make-up for filming, a shocked Robertson told the Daily News. For the next six hours, she sat patiently while they filmed. **• METRO/CB**

In the news



Countdown on
 The new Barclays Center opens in 30 days! Metro will offer a tidbit about the new development every day until opening day. The Center will have 18,200 seats for basketball and up to 19,000 seats for concerts. The center also boasts 100 luxury suites, and you can also sit in one of the four bars or lounges, three clubs and a restaurant that are planned. **• METRO**

News in brief



Kelly revamps stop-and-frisk instructions

NEW YORK. Police Commissioner Ray Kelly issued a new guide for his officers on stop and frisk, according to a Village Voice report yesterday. The new training is for all officers and emphasizes not stopping people based on personal prejudice or bias. Also, it specifies cops cannot stop people based on a "whim." The new training comes after criticism for the program, which police and Mayor Michael Bloomberg defend. **• METRO/AB**

Boy, 9, shot in the Bronx

BRONX. A 9-year-old boy was shot in the leg near Yankee Stadium Monday night. Cops said that the boy was hit by a stray bullet, and he was in stable condition after being rushed to the hospital. He was shot around 6 p.m. near East 157th Street and Walton Avenue. Two teenage girls were arguing nearby, and one was joined by a male friend who fired into the crowd, according to the Post. **• METRO/AB**

Two killed in Staten Island car crash

STATEN ISLAND. Two people are dead after a horrific crash on Staten Island Monday night, according to the NYPD, when a BMW collided with an ambulance at about 7 p.m. on Hyland Boulevard. The drivers of both vehicles were killed. The patient being transported in the ambulance was hospitalized in stable condition yesterday. **• METRO/CB**

School stunned by freshman suicide

► Within just days of moving onto campus, a young undergrad takes her own life ► What exactly motivated suicide remains unknown, but fellow freshmen at Columbia empathize with what she may have been going through ► Same dorm site of freshman suicide more than 20 years ago

A young life was abruptly cut short when a freshman at Columbia University killed herself in a jump from a 15-story dorm on the school's campus.

Martha Corey-Ochoa, 18, was taken to St. Luke's Hospital and pronounced dead after she jumped from the 14th floor of John Jay Hall on West 114th Street late Monday night.

Her body was found by two freshman women.

Corey-Ochoa lived in a dorm room on the 14th floor of the building.

Corey-Ochoa was reportedly struggling with unknown mental health issues, according to the Daily News, and was reportedly taking medication.

Police suspect her death was a suicide.

Corey-Ochoa was the valedictorian at Dobbs Ferry High School in Westchester County, New York before coming to the prestigious Ivy League university.

Columbia Dean Kevin Shollenberger sent an email to the student body about Corey-Ochoa's death yesterday morning.

"Martha was passionate about mathematics and literature, and recognized as a very talented writer," Schollenberger wrote to students. "We extend our deepest condolences to the family of this student. As we continue to cope with the loss of one of our valued community members, we



► The mood on Columbia's campus was somber yesterday.

MILES DIXON/METRO

remain committed to ensuring the health and well-being of our Columbia family."

Students report that John Jay Hall was on lockdown immediately after she jumped Monday night.

"It was really confusing when it happened (between 11:30 p.m. and midnight); they wouldn't let anyone in or out of John Jay 'till around 1 a.m.," said Dakota Ross, 18, a freshman at Columbia University, who was in John Jay Hall when Corey-Ochoa jumped.

The mood on Columbia's

Morningside Heights campus was quiet and somber yesterday.

The school held a moment of silence yesterday morning at one of the university's halls.

"The school handled everything very well; there were even people around this morning offering counseling if anybody needed it," Ross said yesterday.

She and other students empathized with what Corey-Ochoa may have been going through.

"Coming to school for the

Suicide at dorm before

John Jay dormitory at Columbia was the site of a similar suicide 24 years ago.

► Jonathan A. Spohn, an 18-year-old freshman at Columbia University, jumped to his death from his 14th-floor room in late September of 1988, a month after he arrived for freshman orientation, according to The New York Times.

► He was the third student to commit suicide that week at a New York City college. He did not leave a note.

METRO STAFF
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first time was a really intense experience, and I can see maybe what she was feeling," said Ross.

"It's just sad she didn't have anyone to talk to," she added.

Another student said she could see how the first few days on campus, in a new city, could be overwhelming.

"[Orientation] was fine for me because I did a summer program here, but I can see how it could be hard," said Sherri Brighaupt, a fellow freshman who lives in John Jay Hall.

Who was Martha Corey-Ochoa?

Corey-Ochoa had just delivered a speech as valedictorian to fellow graduating seniors at Dobbs Ferry High School before moving to New York City to begin her freshman year at Columbia University. In her remarks, she en-



couraged her peers to open their hearts in order to experience "true beauty and ultimate happiness," according to the New York Post.

Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District superintendent Lisa Brady told The Journal News in Westchester that

Corey-Ochoa was a talented student, writer and musician.

"Martha was a gifted writer," Brady said. "In an interview for the district newsletter last fall, she said, 'Music inspires my writing. I love analyzing music and literature and making connections between disciplines.'"

The talented student enjoyed writing, playing the

violin and ballet, according to her Facebook page. Her favorite musicians included Rihanna, Bruce Springsteen, Paramore and Beethoven. Among her favorite books were the "Twilight" series, "The Symposium," and "Crime and Punishment."

Her father, George Ochoa, is a well-known author. **• CASSANDRA GARRISON**

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Brigham's death ruled an accident

LOWER EAST SIDE. The mysterious death of a woman on the Lower East Side on Monday was officially ruled an accident by the city Medical Examiner's Office yesterday, according to the New York Post.

Carlisle Brigham, 29, may



have tripped on her high heels and fallen down a flight of steep stairs, resulting in her untimely death, according to the New York Post.

She was found at the bottom of the staircase at 191 Orchard St., covered in blood and with gashes to her neck.

Brigham is the daughter of a former New York City budget director James Brigham.

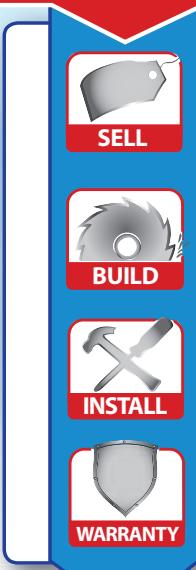
• METRO/CB

Mother of ESB shooter says son 'kindhearted'

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► Police tape was up Friday at the scene of the fatal shooting.

The mother of the man behind the fatal shooting at the Empire State Building on Friday said she does not blame police for shooting and killing her son, but she still thinks of him as a "kindhearted, caring person."

The gunman, identified by police as Jeffrey Johnson, confronted former co-worker Steven Ercolino outside the Empire State Building and shot him at close range in the head, killing him. Johnson was then shot and killed by police after he turned his gun on them, a move his mother believed was strategic so the officers would shoot and kill him. Nine other people were injured in the crossfire.

He had lost his job as a designer for Hazan Imports, located within the building, about a year ago, and his mother said he blamed Ercolino, a salesman, for not selling enough of the line he designed. She found out about

her son's actions and his death by watching the news.

"I know there are a lot of Jeffrey Johnsons in the world and a lot of Jeffrey Johnsons in New York City, but when they said the company he used to work for, I just went to pieces," his mother told The New York Times.

She asked The Times to withhold her first name and hometown in Georgia to protect her privacy. Ms. Johnson, who is in her 80s, said she racked her brain trying to figure out what caused her son's violent behavior. She considered a childhood car accident that caused him brain trauma, his marksmanship training for the Coast Guard, even the recent death of his beloved pet. She said Johnson wrote in a letter that "life has been diminished tenfold" since the death of his cat Romeo.

 **CASSANDRA GARRISON**
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Had not seen mom in 22 years

Johnson attended the Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota, Fla. He then joined the Coast Guard and got married, but he and his wife divorced four years later.

That was more than thirty years ago, his mother said. He moved to NYC about ten years ago. His mother had not seen him for 22 years, but they spoke over the phone every Sunday,

she said.

She had not heard from him, though, since April 6 when he called to wish her a happy birthday.

"I don't blame police in New York for shooting my son because he killed somebody, but for me, he hasn't changed," she said. "He's still the kindhearted, caring person who loved all kinds of animals and I'm sure he loved us. You know a mother always tries to look for the best in you."

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Energy-drink makers under AG probe

► State's top lawmaker goes after claims made by popular energy-drink companies ► AG issues subpoenas ► Did drink makers deliberately overstate benefits of some ingredients?

A five-hour energy boost? New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman is skeptical.

New York's top lawmaker has launched a probe into several companies that make the popular, so-called "energy drinks," including Monster and 5-hour Energy.

In July, Schneiderman's office issued subpoenas to three companies: PepsiCo, which makes AMP drinks; Monster Beverage Corp., which makes the Monster drink; and Living Essential, LLC., maker of 5-hour Energy, according to a report yesterday in the Wall Street Journal.

The subpoenas specifically seek information about the marketing and advertising practices of the three companies, according to the Journal. Schneiderman wants to find out if the companies are deceiving consumers with their



► The New York attorney general is questioning the advertising claims behind some energy drinks.

Flickr photo via Mr. Smashy

elaborate claims about the health benefits of their drinks.

Specifically, investigators with the AG's office want to find out if these drink makers

overstated the benefits of some ingredients in their beverages, like taurine and ginseng, while deliberately downplaying the role caffeine plays, which is

also in the drinks.

Critics of these drinks say that it's simply everyday caffeine that acts as the active ingredient, and not the fancy,

exotic ingredients like B-vitamins, taurine and ginseng. The companies claim the add-ins all boost energy for hours, and better than a regular cup of coffee.

Additionally, investigators also want to know if the addition of guarana, another source of caffeine, in some energy drinks is against the law. Certain laws prohibit adding multiple sources of caffeine in one drink without disclosing the overall amount.

Schneiderman can file subpoenas against any company that does business in New York state. If the makers of these drinks are found to have violated state laws, they may have to pay fines and penalties, as well as change their labeling. None of the companies responded to the Journal.

 **CARLY BALDWIN**
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Not the first to investigate drinks

Schneiderman is not the first to question the drinks and their marketing claims.

According to the Wall Street Journal, the Food and Drug Administration said in 2009 the term "energy drink" is not defined by any federal regulations. The FDA said it's an "ill-defined marketing term with widely varying ingredients," the Journal wrote.

With the probe, Schneiderman joins Mayor Michael Bloomberg's controversial pushback against big soda makers like PepsiCo.

Bloomberg proposed earlier this year banning the sale of sodas larger than 16 ounces in most restaurants, movie theaters and fast-food chains.

The idea is expected to be approved by the city Board of Health on Sept. 13.



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► Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver approved a \$100,000 secret payout to a woman accusing Brooklyn Assemblyman Vito Lopez of harassment. Silver now says the secrecy was wrong.

Lopez resigns from powerful post

Lopez said yesterday he would step down as the Brooklyn Democratic Party chairman.

"The onslaught of character attacks has put enormous emotional pressures on my family and close friends," he said in a

statement. "I cannot sit by and allow that to continue." He maintained, "I have never sexually harassed any staff, and I hope and intend to prove in the coming months the political nature of these accusations." He has already been removed as chairman of the powerful Assembly housing committee.

Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver admitted he was wrong in the secrecy surrounding a more than \$100,000 payout to a woman who accused Assemblyman Vito Lopez of sexual harassment earlier this year.

Silver approved the payment of \$103,080 in public money to settle claims that the longtime Brooklyn assemblyman harassed at least one female staffer who worked with him.

The details of the secret settlement come after Lopez was censured by the Assembly Friday for allegedly sexually harassing two different women in separate incidents.

But late yesterday, Silver said he realized full public dis-

Quoted

"It is outrageous that Assembly member Vito Lopez was allowed to continue to operate a hostile work environment that led to the latest incident in which interns were harassed, groped and intimidated."

SONIA OSSORIO, PRESIDENT OF NOW

closure would have been better than a private payout.

"now believe it was the wrong one from the perspective of transparency," Silver said, according to the Associated Press. "I take full responsibility in not insisting that all cases go to the ethics committee."

Silver said he also regretted approving the confidential settlement, with public money, that kept Lopez's name shielded.

He said there should be open investigations instead that still maintain the victims' privacy.

As part of the settlement, Lopez was required to attend a sexual harassment workshop.

Both sides reportedly signed

a confidentiality agreement.

The National Organization for Women (NOW) blasted Lopez as well as Sheldon, accusing the Assembly speaker of using taxpayer money to silence past victims.

"Sheldon Silver is now in the hot seat with Lopez, and he has a lot of explaining to do," NOW president Sonia Ossorio said.

Lopez denies all the charges, calling them "unfair and untrue. Never did I intentionally touch or attempt to kiss either of the complainants. I have never forced myself on anyone, nor would I."

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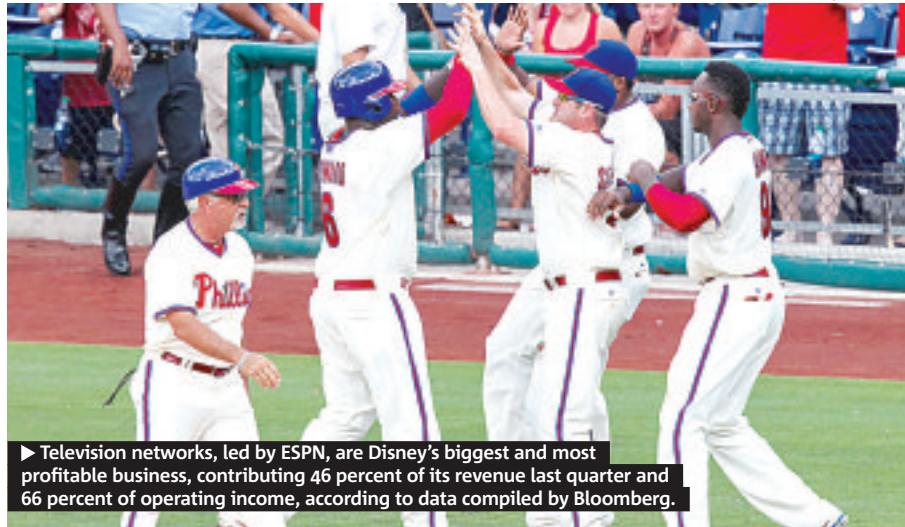
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ESPN reaches \$5.6 B deal to expand MLB coverage

BRIAN GARFINKEL/GETTY IMAGES



► Television networks, led by ESPN, are Disney's biggest and most profitable business, contributing 46 percent of its revenue last quarter and 66 percent of operating income, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

ESPN reached a new eight-year deal with Major League Baseball, extending the cable network's rights to more games, studio programming and online coverage through 2021.

The network will spend \$5.6 billion, about double what it currently pays baseball for domestic and international TV rights, digital programming and radio coverage, according to a person with knowledge of the situation who wasn't authorized to speak publicly.

ESPN, the dominant sports channel, extended its commitment to baseball as it confronts stepped-up competition from NBC and CBS cable networks and a potential new entrant from Fox.

As media companies bid up

Wild-card game added

The deal, starting in 2014, also gives ESPN rights to one annual wild-card game, a playoff match-up that baseball added this year, and any tiebreakers that may occur.

Sports Business Daily reported the agreement earlier yesterday.

Disney, based in Burbank, Calif., closed unchanged at \$49.63 in New York. Shares of the world's largest entertainment company have gained 32 percent this year.

BLOOMBERG

the price of TV rights, cable carriers have resisted absorbing the added costs, leading to contract disputes and blackouts.

"The enormous scope of what we acquired will provide fans with more live baseball and more ways to access baseball content than ever before," John Skipper, ESPN's president, said in the statement.

Under the accord, the Bristol, Conn.-based sports cable network will gain rights to 10 additional regular season games and more footage highlights for use in multiple media, the league and ESPN said today in a statement. The network will also face fewer blackouts where local channels also have rights.

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New Orleans in line of fire, seven years after Katrina

Tropical Storm Isaac strengthened into a hurricane just off the U.S. Gulf Coast yesterday, lashing the New Orleans area with strong winds and heavy rain seven years after the city was devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Isaac's storm surge could pose a major test of New Orleans' new flood control systems and reinforced levees. Forecasts from the U.S. National Hurricane Center showed the storm coming ashore in the Mississippi Delta late yesterday, possibly taking direct aim at the so-called Crescent City.

"Isaac has finally formed into a hurricane, so we are officially in the fight, and the city of New Orleans is on the front lines," New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu told reporters.

"Citizens have to be prepared. I'm going to ask you to hunker down," Landrieu said as hundreds of U.S. Army National Guard troops took up strategic positions around New Orleans.

Brandishing automatic assault rifles to ward off any threat of looting, the troops in military vehicles took up positions on mostly deserted streets. Their arrival came as driving rain and stiff winds began battering the city's iconic French Quarter.

Earlier, the Army Corps of Engineers closed for the first time the massive new floodgate on the largest storm-surge barrier in the world, at Lake Borgne, east of New Orleans. **REUTERS**



\$14.5 billion flood defense

After Katrina, the Corps of Engineers built a \$14.5 billion flood defense system of walls, floodgates, levees and pumps designed to protect the city against a massive tidal surge like the one that swamped New Orleans in Katrina's wake.

The floodgate that closed yesterday is 26 feet high and 1.8 miles long. It was designed to prevent the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal from breaching its walls. **REUTERS**

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WORLD EXCLUSIVE: PRESIDENT OF RWANDA

Paul Kagame

The United Nations, based in New York City, is the world's parliament. Metro, as one of the biggest newspapers in the city, today begins a series of interviews with leading political figures on important issues. In a world exclusive, Metro speaks to Paul Kagame, the president of Rwanda, an ally of the U.S.

His government stands accused by a U.N. Group of Experts of fomenting rebellion in diamond- and gold-rich eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, a charge Kagame denies. Into this volatile mix of political charge and counter-charge, Rwanda is poised to take up a coveted seat on the U.N. Security Council.

► **Kagame: We are not interfering in neighboring countries** ► **Head of the UN Group of Experts is labeled 'partisan political activist'** ► **Claims of human rights abuses driven by 'unaccountable advocacy groups'**

The last time Rwanda sat as a member of the United Nations Security Council was in 1994. It was between April and July of that year — more than 100 days — that more than 1 million mainly ethnic Tutsis were slaughtered in a genocide overseen by a regime whose representative the U.N. told the world to look the other way.

Almost two decades later, Rwanda, a strong ally of the United States and Israel, is again seeking a seat at the U.N. Security Council.

This time the government is led by President Paul Kagame, who led forces that liberated Rwanda's capital, Kigali, and brought a halt to the genocide in 1994. Well-disposed Western visitors to Rwanda include former President Bill Clinton, former U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair and Starbucks boss Howard Schultz.

Rwanda's prospective elevation to the Security Council is not without its critics, especially in light of recent accusations that President Kagame's government is providing illicit support to an armed mutiny in the neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo. Kagame vehemently denies the claims, but this hasn't stopped several donor countries suspending aid to Rwanda.

Since 1994, when the fleeing

genocidal forces escaped to the lawless eastern part of Congo, relations between the neighbors have been fraught. Nonetheless, Kagame insists that Rwanda plays no part in the current crisis in the DRC — claiming he has no interest in 'costly, pointless foreign adventures' that divert his country's progress from the world's poorest country 20 years ago to one of Africa's most dynamic countries today.

On the cusp of your nation's Security Council membership, an addendum to a United Nations report by the Group of Experts accused Rwanda of unacceptable interference in the mineral-rich eastern part of the DRC, where lawless militia and illicit business interests rule, for failure of control of a weak central Congolese government. How do you respond to these accusations?

These accusations are not true. Our national priorities have to be directed toward our country's development, not toward foreign ventures, in particular illicit ones. The history and national interest of Rwanda and the Rwandan people dictate our national orientation. Our country experienced the horrors of genocide only 18 years ago. Since then, on the basis of a policy of national reconciliation, more than 1 million of

Quoted

"We do not like to be lectured by unaccountable advocacy groups ... about how to protect the rights of our citizens."

PAUL KAGAME

► Paul Kagame is president of the Republic of Rwanda.

our people have been lifted out of poverty, over 90 percent of Rwandans are covered by health insurance and we are ranked by World Bank Doing Business as the third easiest place to do business in Africa, under conditions of low corruption according to Transparency International. We have established wonderful partnerships with development partners. We're attempting to rebuild the structures of our society in a way whereby every Rwandan has a stake in our future.

Many commentators, including the U.N. Group of Experts on the DRC, seem to believe historical and cultural ties to the rebel

groups make it inevitable that Rwanda will get involved. You worked with these groups before, and you share ethnic and language heritage with them. Don't you see how this causes suspicion?

There's a habit in the West to view Africa and our region in particular through the outdated and erroneous prism of tribalism and ethnicity. Because there are Congolese of Rwandan origin, such as those you referred to in your questions, who rebel against the Congolese government, people jump to the conclusions that Rwanda must be complicit in supporting them. Modern

Rwanda rejects this primitive outlook. We embrace our Rwandan national identity and we will pursue our national interest irrespective of events in neighboring countries, regardless of so-called tribal affiliations. The new Rwanda is about building an economy that delivers prosperity and opportunity for our citizens based on a robust private sector. Foreign adventures would be costly and counterproductive distractions from these challenging objectives.

We simply cannot support a rebellion outside our border. The Rwandan people, put to the sword perhaps like no oth-

er in the last 50 years, know the value of peace. So do I.

Rwanda has come in for a lot of criticism from human rights groups for alleged support for rebel groups like M23 as well as broader criticisms over your record on media and political freedoms. What is your response to these criticisms?

I understand that human rights groups are locked in a fierce competition for big checks from wealthy donors and they need to generate big headlines. We do not like to be lectured to by unaccountable advocacy groups acting for their financiers about how to protect the rights of our





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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2012

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Rwanda time line

Rwanda experienced colonialism before it gained independence from Belgium in 1962. Decades of ethnic division followed:

- ▶ **1973-1986:** Hutu president Juvenal Habyarimana runs an effective one-party state until the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front is formed.
- ▶ **Oct. 1990:** RPF guerrillas invade Rwanda from neighbor-



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

► Images of genocide victims at the Kigali Genocide Memorial

ing Uganda. A ceasefire is signed in March 1991.

- ▶ **August 1993:** Habyarimana and the RPF sign a peace accord allowing for a coalition government.
- ▶ **Jan. 10, 1994:** General Romeo Dallaire, head of U.N. peacekeepers in Rwanda, sends a cable to New York warning of impending genocide. He is ordered to do nothing.
- ▶ **April 6, 1994:** Habyarimana dies when his plane is shot down at Kigali. Radio Television Libre Des Mille Collines

blames "Tutsi cockroaches." The killing of Tutsis begins.

- ▶ **April 11, 1994:** Belgian UN peacekeepers withdraw, abandoning 5,000 Tutsis, almost all of whom are killed.
- ▶ **April 30, 1994:** The U.N. Security Council spends eight hours discussing the situation. It omits the word "genocide" in a resolution.
- ▶ **July 1994:** The Tutsi-dominated RPF captures Kigali. Nearly 1 million, mainly Tutsis, are dead after 100 days.
- ▶ **March 2000:** Paul Kagame be-

comes president of Rwanda.

- ▶ **2000-2012:** Rwanda produces exceptional economic growth and levels of healthcare. It is praised by Western governments as a model of stability in Africa.
- ▶ **2000-2012:** But the U.N. claims persist that it is fomenting rebellion in neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo, where Hutu extremists behind the 1994 genocide are said to have fled.
- ▶ **2012:** Rwanda is expected to join the U.N. Security Council.

Rwanda in pictures



► The new and the old: Traditional mud homes sit on the outskirts of Kigali, next to new suburban housing.



► Rwanda is cited as a model of African stability.

Q&A

The New York Times quoted a report by a human rights group accusing you of running a repressive regime. How do you answer those claims?

They are mainly talking about laws related to genocide ideology, which I am more than happy to defend. Rwandans will not tolerate voices that promote a return to the ethnic divisionism that precipitated the genocide 18 years ago. To that extent, we place limits on freedom of expression in a similar way to how much of Europe has made it a crime to deny the Holocaust. Aside from that, Rwanda is a very open and free country. Key to our recovery as a nation has a range of grassroots, citizen-centered policies we call "homegrown solutions." The idea that Rwanda is highly controlled from the center belies the reality, which is that citizens in every village have a powerful say in how things get done. We prize accountability and Rwandans are quickly adapting themselves to the possibilities of a digital economy. A lot of this talk of repression results from outdated stereotypes about Africa.

the U.N. Group of Experts

— which in an addendum to its own report has accused Rwanda of fomenting unrest in eastern Congo — as having an impermissibly "benign view" of people who carried out the 1994 genocide. Is this still your view?

We understand that experts come to the table with a variety of preconceived ideas and opinions. We accept that, in some cases, this will work against Rwanda's interests. But there is a point at which this translates into outright bias. In the case of the Coordinator of the Group of Experts, he has crossed the line from expert to partisan political activist. His anti-Rwandan views are well on the record and both the methodology and falsehoods that have found their way into the offensive addendum to the report conform to his unacceptable views. In his prior writings this coordinator appeared as an apologist for a group of Congo-based extremist militants who have repeatedly been sanctioned by the U.N. Security Council and whose leaders are the same leaders which factually led the genocide and were labeled terrorist by the U.S. State Department.

It is completely unacceptable for a person with this history to sit in judgment on Rwanda or any other country for that matter. It's really all quite extraordinary. Rwanda will not let this matter stand.

Western governments, including the U.S., have withheld aid to Rwanda over M23 claims. What do you see as the consequences? Some countries have reacted to this very flawed U.N. report by temporarily suspending aid funding to Rwanda. This is regrettable, because we place a high value on good relations with development partners.

But we are confident that these funds will be unfrozen once we tell our side of the story. It is a timely reminder to Rwandans that we still have some way to travel as a nation before we are truly independent. Strong economic growth, and especially a significant increase in private

sector investment, is the only sustainable path forward for Rwanda. The donors as recipients can undermine aid effectiveness just as easily, and this is exactly what happens when countries use the development dollar as a weapon to impose political will on smaller and less powerful countries.

Rwanda is said to have economic interests in Eastern Congo: You are accused of looting mineral resources in the DRC.

This is a persistent myth. Rwanda leads the region in stamping out illegal trade in minerals. We have a functioning mineral certification process. We play by the rules. Recently we handed back to the DRC 80 tons of minerals that had been smuggled into Rwanda. Our geographic position dictates that our economic interests are best served by a stable and prosperous DRC, because under such conditions, Rwanda would benefit greatly from increased trade and legitimate transit of Congolese minerals. To this end, Rwanda supports the establishment of a so-called "Neutral Force" which has been agreed between the 11 member states of the International Conference of the Great Lakes region in Africa. This is a home-grown solution to a regional border problem.

Rwanda has been described as the "Israel of Africa." What similarities do you see between the two? And what lessons can you learn from Israel, especially in dealings with the U.N.?

Like Israel, we live in a difficult neighborhood. We understand that national security is vital for economic and social progress. Our sense of national purpose has been forged in unfathomable tragedy. We also have in common critics who attack our fundamental legitimacy, or even our very right to exist. Israel and Rwanda both play an active part in international organizations, including the U.N., but I think it's true that our unique experiences as nations have shaped a fierce independence that we will not relinquish. ● METRO

The U.N. responds

Metro yesterday contacted the United Nations and put President Kagame's remarks concerning the Coordinator of the Group of Experts to the U.N. for response.

A spokesperson for the office of the U.N. Secretary General said that members of the panel of experts, such as the GoE, were independent "and we trust them to do a professional job."

The report of the Group of

Experts concerning the Democratic Republic of Congo, which contained references to Rwanda, had been presented to the Security Council, which would review its contents and make any necessary judgments.

▶ Metro made two further calls yesterday to the U.N. seeking contact with Steve Hege, the Coordinator of the Group of Experts, to put President Kagame's points to him directly. The UN said it was 'not standard practice to refer members of the Group of Experts to the media.'

citizens. Human rights are not the preserve of Western activists: The definition must extend to encompass the right to the dignified life; the right to send your kids to school, for access to greater prosperity for generations to come and to have a say in the destiny of your community and country. Under that definition, Rwanda has nothing to learn from advocacy groups who think they own the copyright on what constitutes human rights under all conditions in every corner of the world.

Your government is reported to view Steve Hege, Coordinator of

"The Rwandan people, put to the sword perhaps like no other in the last 50 years, know the value of peace. So do I." PAUL KAGAME

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Global warning: Arctic ice retreats to record low

Satellite pictures show that on Aug. 26, 2012, Arctic sea ice had shrunk to the smallest size in recorded history, 27,000 square miles below the previous record. Worryingly, NASA analysts say this has not been a warm summer, and that the "core" ice cover has been diminished, making it more vulnerable. Weeks of

13

The percentage decline in Arctic ice levels each decade, according to Nasa statistics.

melt season remain. "The effects of greenhouse

warming are now coming through loud and clear," a spokesman for the National Snow and Ice Data Center announced when the record low was broken on Sept. 18, 2007. However, unusual atmospheric patterns and a hot summer partly explained the figures, which improved the following year. • MWN

What to expect

If current trends continue, we could be in for the follow unpleasant consequences.

► **Rising tides.** Analysts predict average sea levels could rise by over 23 inches to 2100,

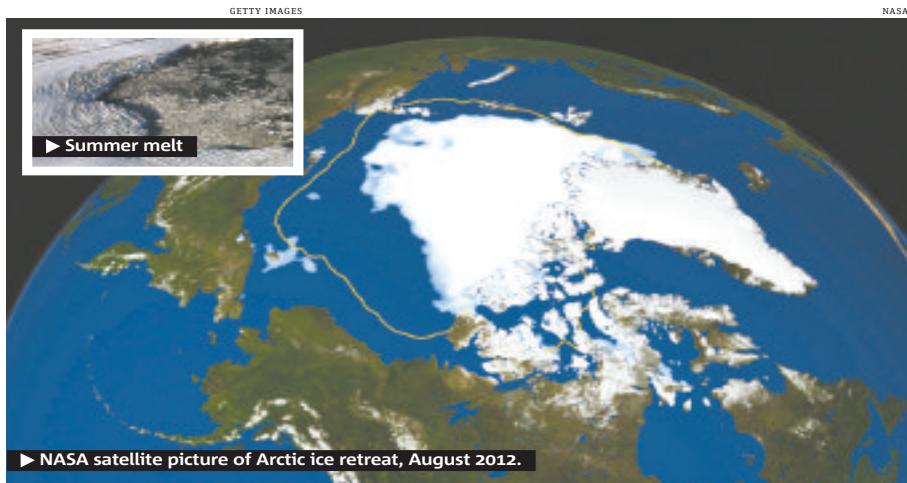
but would impact more heavily on land such as Pacific islands or the Gulf Of Mexico.

► **Extinction.** Arctic species are on the front line and vanishing ice is a serious threat. Certain penguin species have declined by 80% since 1975.

► **Methane release.** Arctic ice

plays a vital role in storing methane gas, which causes more environmental damage than carbon dioxide.

► **Temperature rises.** The Arctic temperature could rise by 15 degrees Fahrenheit by the century's end, with increases around the world and freak weather conditions.



► NASA satellite picture of Arctic ice retreat, August 2012.



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Anne Romney takes stage to humanize her husband

When she speaks with someone, Ann Romney focuses on her subject with the intensity of a mother skilled in keeping a child's attention.

That maternal presence — and her experience with raising five sons — has helped her connect with average voters in a way that comes less naturally for her husband, Mitt Romney.

Her challenge last night at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Florida — her biggest stage yet — was to humanize her husband for Americans who haven't so far found him very likable. She

"A spouse can really personalize him."

DIANNE BYSTROM, DIRECTOR OF THE CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT CENTER FOR WOMEN AND POLITICS AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

needed to show that he's more than a former private equity executive who's good with numbers, and that he cares about their needs.

"A spouse can really personalize him," said Dianne Bystrom, director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at Iowa State University in Ames. "She needs to talk to the American public in a personal way about what she sees in Mitt Romney, as a husband and a father."

Ann Romney said yesterday that she has worked hard to craft her remarks. She spent much of the flight to Tampa huddled with advisers, refining the speech. After practicing Monday in a New Hampshire high school, she baked hundreds of Welsh cakes, a British teatime sweet beloved by her husband. **BLOOMBERG**

Gender gap

- Women, who represent 52 percent of the U.S. electorate, are a crucial group in every presidential election, and polling shows President Barack Obama with a significant advantage among female voters. They prefer Obama over Romney by an eight-percentage-point margin, according to Gallup daily tracking polls conducted July 30 through Aug. 19.
- The existence of Romney's gender gap has received renewed focus in recent days after Todd Akin said that "legitimate rape" rarely leads to pregnancy and so abortion shouldn't be allowed in rape cases.



► Because of her multiple sclerosis, Ann Romney doesn't have the campaign-trail stamina of First Lady Michelle Obama. In March, she had a flare-up of the autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system.

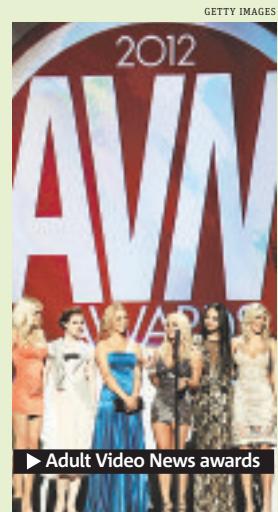
News in brief

New poll outlines challenges, also openings for Mitt

TAMPA, FLA. Mitt Romney enters the convention week facing serious challenges in his drive to unseat President Obama in the Nov. 6 election, with the Democrat outscoring him on eloquence and likability, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll released Monday.

But many factors weigh in the Republican's favor as he seeks a boost from his Tampa, Fla., convention. An overwhelming majority of Americans believe the U.S. economy is on the wrong track, the poll found.

REUTERS



down on pornography in a move that could pit social conservatives against hotel operators, television providers and other businesses that profit from the sale of sexually explicit material.

As they prepare to nominate Mitt Romney as their presidential candidate for the Nov. 6 election, Republicans have added language to their official platform

that anti-smut activists said would encourage the federal government to step up prosecution of pornography involving adults.

"Current laws on all forms of pornography and obscenity need to be vigorously enforced," the platform says, according to a draft obtained by Reuters. Republicans are planning a vote on the document, a nonbinding statement of principles that tackles everything from monetary policy to abortion.

Though previous Republican platforms have called for increased prosecution of child pornography, this appears to be the first time that the party has called for a crackdown on sexually explicit material involving adults — a multi-billion-dollar industry.

Obscenity has been notoriously difficult to define in a legal context. The Supreme Court in 1973 held that to be obscene, material must depict sex in a manner that offends contemporary community standards and is devoid of artistic or scientific value. **REUTERS**

Dolan to pray at both conventions this year



► Timothy Dolan

Roman Catholic Cardinal Timothy Dolan will deliver the closing prayer at the Democratic National Convention as well as this week's Republican meeting, in a sign of bipartisanship after Dolan had taken a role opposing the White House on policy matters.

Dolan, the archbishop of New York and president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, last week accepted an invitation to deliver the closing prayer at the Republican National Convention tomorrow in Tampa, Fla.

His office announced yesterday he would do the same for the Democrats in Charlotte, N.C.

Political analysts see many Catholics as "swing voters" who can be swayed to vote for either party, making Dolan welcome at both conventions.

"It was made clear to the Democratic convention organizers, as it was to the Republicans, that the cardinal was

'Civility pledge'

► Dolan said on Monday that he wanted Obama and Romney to sign a "civility pledge" to ensure they would not make personal attacks during the campaign and instead concentrate on substantive issues.

coming solely as a pastor, only to pray, not to endorse any party, platform or candidate," Joseph Zwilling, spokesman for the New York archdiocese, said in a statement.

Dolan has become an increasingly influential political figure and a champion for conservatives, especially since he challenged President Barack Obama over a federal health insurance provision that required Catholic institutions such as universities and hospitals to cover birth control. **REUTERS**



myentertainment

THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip [@monicaatmetro](#) monica.weymouth@metro.us



Lohan a suspect in theft — yes, again

Although her name was initially cleared, **Lindsay Lohan** is now officially a suspect in the theft of \$100,000 worth of valuables from a Hollywood home.

Last week, police were called to the home of **Sam Magid** after Lohan, her assistant and others spent the night partying. Here's where things get messy, even by Lohan standards: Magid claimed that insanely expensive sunglasses and watches were missing, but later recanted his story. Then, on Monday, two of Lohan's friends — including **Andrew Knight**, son of hip-hop mogul **Suge Knight** — stopped by Magid's house with some of the stolen items that they claim Lohan gave them, reports TMZ.

What's Lohan have to say for herself? Quite a bit. According to TMZ, she claims that she was in an Ambien fog that night but does remember hiding jewelry, watches and Tiffany silverware out of fear they would be stolen by other guests. As for anything that actually did walk off, she blames Knight.

Lohan's father, **Michael Lohan**, is calling the accusation against his daughter an unfair "witch hunt" — presumably



► Lohan has her criminal chic look down by now.

because he forgets she stole a necklace from a high-end jewelry store last year, resulting in

a months-long, soul-crushing courtroom circus. Must be nice, Michael. Must be nice.



► Prince Harry has a lot of photos ops to go.

Talking points

Is there a Prince Harry video?

Prince Harry's headaches over his naked romp in Las Vegas earlier this month may not be over, as Radar Online is reporting that a video of the incident could end up online shortly — for the right price. "There is video of Harry partying naked with women in the Las Vegas

hotel room. There have been some very quiet inquiries to see how much the video is worth," a source says. "The video has not been shopped around yet. With all the attention the photos got, the people with the video know it could be worth a fortune."

Amanda Bynes, go to your room right now

Amanda Bynes' most recent hit-and-run incident has led investigators to renew their interest in a similar accident

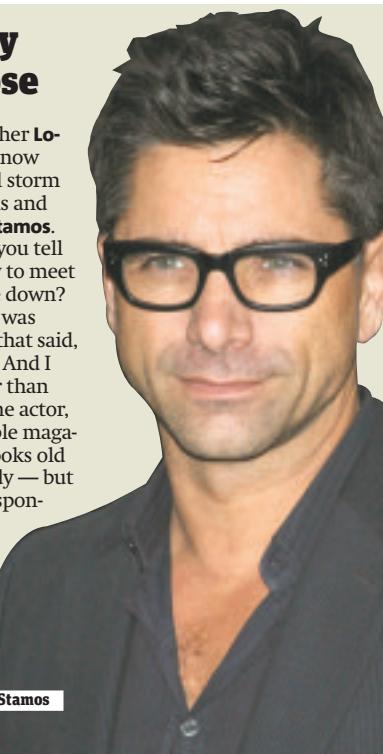
Emergency Stamos dose

In the midst of another **Lo-han** hurricane, let's now turn to our personal storm shelter full of kittens and pizza bagels, **John Stamos**.

John, why don't you tell us how you're ready to meet a nice girl and settle down?

"The other day, I was reading something that said, '**Jimmy Kimmel**, 44.' And I was like, 'Am I older than Jimmy Kimmel?'" the actor, who is 49, tells People magazine. "Not that he looks old — Jimmy's my buddy — but he's got kids and responsibility. I think part of me feeling not so adult-like is that I don't have those pillars that say you're an adult. I'm not married, I don't have kids."

Stamos



Brand spices up his life

We're beginning to think that **Russell Brand** has a type.

A month after finalizing his divorce from **Katy Perry**, the comedian is linked to none other than **Geri Halliwell** — aka **Ginger Spice**, the

original pop star to declare pants optional.

Halliwell and Brand were spotted at the Olympics together — and while she won't talk about her relationship, she does admit there's something going on. "I'm not going into details," she tells Hello! Magazine. "Right now there's nothing serious."

Bynes rear-ending another car and then fleeing the scene.

Osbourne has help managing his MS

Jack Osbourne was recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, but fiance **Lisa Stelly** is helping him live with the disease. "Lisa makes sure he's healthy — eating right and exercising," a friend tells Us Weekly. "They love staying active as a family." The couple has a daughter, 4-month-old Pearl.

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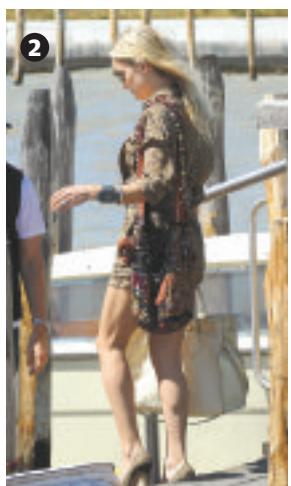
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Venice envy

1: Naomi Watts got a hand after docking at the Venice Film Festival yesterday.

2: Also teetering around the Venice docks in questionable boating shoes: **Kate Hudson**.

3: Tennis pro **Mary Carillo**, **Alec Baldwin** and **Anna Wintour** crashed the Moet & Chandon Suite at the 12th Annual USTA Serves Opening Night Gala, the kickoff to the US Open.

4: Long time, no see, **Julia Stiles**! The actress was at the "Heartless" opening night party in New York City on Monday night.

5: When visiting the set of "Extra" on Monday, Olympic gymnast **McKayla Maroney** flashed her infamous not-even-a-little-impressed face.

6: **Sofia Vergara** was spotted out and about in New York City yesterday. Think we could stow away in her purse next time?

1: GARETH CATTERMOLE/GETTY IMAGES
2: JACOPO RAULE/FILMAGIC
3: MICHAEL KOVAC/GETTY IMAGES
4: ANDREW H. WALKER/GETTY IMAGES
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Donald Faison can't hardly wait

► The former 'Scrubs' star talks about his upcoming wedding and reuniting on-camera with Zach Braff

Think you've had a bad roommate experience? It probably can't top that of actor Donald Faison.

"One of my roommates stole \$1,000 dollars from me, forged a check with my name," says the star of TV Land's "The Exes," which centers on a group of divorced men whose neighbor is their divorce attorney — and landlord. "That would be really awesome if I could say, 'Yeah, somebody ate my sandwich,' but no, that's not [what happened]."

After nine years playing goofy surgeon Turk on "Scrubs," Faison is now in the shoes of lothario Phil on "The Exes" — but don't assume that art imitates life in this situation.

"I wish I could say I was a ladies man, but I'm not," the actor says. "I got married young, I had kids young, I did all of that stuff young. I should have lived a little but I didn't. But it's easy to play a ladies man on television — you'll never get shot down, unless the scene calls for it."

Not that he needs to worry about the ladies in real life: Faison is engaged to longtime love CaCee Cobb, but is "not deep into wedding planning at



► "The Exes," starring Donald Faison, airs Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m. on TV Land.

Welcome back, Zach

On tonight's episode of "The Exes," Faison welcomes his former "Scrubs" co-star Zach Braff to the show. (Braff plays "the Roger Federer of our realm," Faison explains.) Faison says he and Braff "hang out all the time," and it was easy for them to fall back into the onscreen groove.

"Because our friendship is so strong, maybe that's why it's so easy to [work together]," Faison says. "There was always that, 'if only we could find another way to get us together,' and we found it. And who knew TV Land had the power to do it?"

Faison would be glad to see Braff to come back to their set — or any TV set, for that matter.

"I'll be honest: If he really wanted to come back to the multi-cam sitcom, it's a way for him to go. He'd crush it."

all right now," he says.

"The crazy thing is when you get engaged, apparently you gotta plan a wedding. I didn't know this," he says. "I guess we're both lazy; we're just having a great time being engaged. There's so many different ways to get married, and you find that out once you get engaged."

So does this mean we can expect an out-of-the-ordinary big day for the duo?

"A 'Star Wars' underwater wedding: That's gonna be us," he says.

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TV watch list

'Necessary Roughness'

DRAMA. As the season opener approaches, Dr. Dani and the New York Hawks face disaster — mostly in the form of guest star Michael Imperioli, who plays a hard-partying pal of TK, the player still battling an OxyContin addiction. Summer finale, 10 p.m., USA

'Oh Sit!'

GAME SHOW. How fitting: The guys behind "Opposite of Adults," Chiddy Bang, provide the tunes for tonight's game of musical chairs played by grownups. 8



► Mehcad Brooks, left, stars as TK King, and Michael Imperioli as his bad news buddy Jimmy Folkes on "Necessary Roughness."

p.m., The CW

'Futurama'

COMEDY. In the two-part mid-season finale, Bender develops a passion for hunting, and the crewmembers are re-

born as wild animals — not in the same episode, though we're sure the robot has a few choice words for his meat bag companions in both half-hours, regardless. Midseason finale, 10 p.m., Comedy Central • AMBER RAY



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Nick Cave's 'Lawless': Not so flawless

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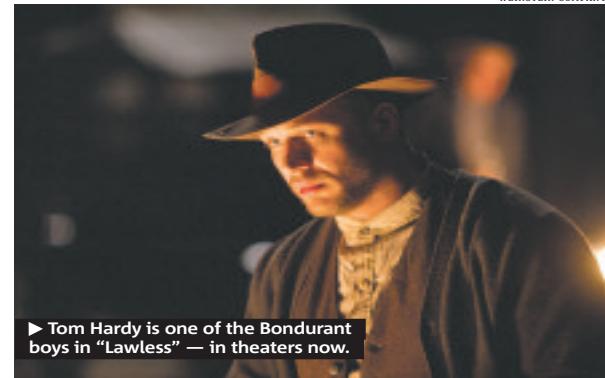
- Oscar season begins early with a new film from the director of 'The Road' and screenwriter Nick Cave
- But something about this Prohibition-era tale doesn't quite gel

In this tale, the three brothers Bondurant supply their Virginia county with a special, beloved brand of moonshine during Prohibition. Based on "The Wettest County in the World" — a fictionalized account of author Matt Bondurant's grandfather and his brothers — the story was written for the screen by musician Nick Cave. As with many book adaptations, there is a meandering quality to the film. Sometimes those fondest of the material shouldn't be left to decide what lands on the cutting room floor, because more often than not, nothing does.

We're introduced to the characters — Shia LaBeouf as the smart but cowardly

youngest brother, Jason Clarke as the drunken, brute force of the group and Tom Hardy as the brains of the operation — responding to others with either a grunt or a brass knuckle to the face. A new deputy (Guy Pearce) comes to town, aiming to crack down on the bootlegging — or at least receive a tithe for turning a blind eye — but the brothers are defiant.

We know this conflict will come to a head at some point, but in the meantime, the film dallies with LaBeouf and Mia Wasikowska (as a chaste local girl) making eyes at each other, and Jessica Chastain smoking butts behind the brothers' restaurant counter. There are moments of shockingly graphic



► Tom Hardy is one of the Bondurant boys in "Lawless" — in theaters now.

If you go

- **'Lawless'**
Director: John Hillcoat
Cast: Tom Hardy, Shia LaBeouf, Guy Pearce
Rating: R
Grade: **★★★★**

violence, moments in which Pearce's sneer is truly chilling — and Hardy's subtle performance is charming. But the film is neither a character study nor a Western, nor a good-guys-versus-bad-guys caper. It's not enough of any one thing to amount to something great.

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The comeback kid

► Vita, Sony's portable player, is still struggling to find its audience ► These new games may change that

Sidescroller



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Sony's portable powerhouse, Vita, has been struggling to connect with consumers since its launch in February. Analysts blame this on smartphones and tablets, claiming there is just no room for dedicated gaming machines in this world. Fire those guys. The Vita just needs more games, and here they come.

'LittleBigPlanet' Vita'

Console: Sony
Grade: **10000**

To the uninitiated, this series is the crown jewel of DIY gaming. On the surface it's a repetitive,



► "LittleBigPlanet" is more than a charming, sidescrolling platform title.

yet charming, sidescrolling platform title. The fun really begins, however, once you dig deep into the incredible level-making mechanic. Making and playing user-created levels is so fun it just might make you barf (in a good way).

'Sound Shapes'

Console: Sony
Grade: **10000**

"Sound Shapes" marries gor-

geous, minimal design with a love and appreciation for music. Each level is based on a song, some crafted by luminaries such as Beck and deadmau5.

The game comes packed with a rudimentary, but useful, audio creation tool. Now you can finally design your dream stage, set to the tune of "Eye of the Tiger."

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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Bust that BBQ bulge

As the summer winds down, you're likely done trying to get your bikini body or Phelps-like abs. But that doesn't mean you should go hide in sweats for the next nine months. We enlisted Adam Rosante, celeb fitness trainer and founder of The People's Bootcamp, which offers pay-what-you-can classes in Manhattan and Montauk, to give us some moves to get you fit by fall. Why the specific six here? "[These] exercises target almost every single muscle in the body," Rosante says.

Perform each exercise for 40 seconds with 10 seconds of rest between each move. After you've completed all six exercises, that's one cycle. Rest for 60 seconds, then repeat. Perform the cycle three times. Be sure to keep your core tight throughout the entire workout.

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Birddog pushups

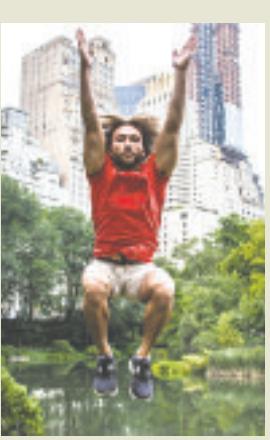
Start in a pushup position with your hands directly below your shoulders. Perform a pushup. At the top of the motion, extend your right arm and left leg to form a



straight line from fingertip to heel. Return them both. Perform another pushup and repeat the arm and leg movement on the opposite side. Continue alternating for 40 seconds.

Power thrusts

Stand with feet hip-width apart. Squat until thighs are almost parallel to the floor, then place your hands on the floor in front of you. Kick your feet back to a pushup position. Immediately return your feet to the squat position and jump straight up as high as you can, reaching the fingertips up and bringing the knees to the chest. Land with soft knees and immediately drop back into a squat. Continue the sequence for 40 seconds.



Pushouts

Start in a pushup position with hands directly below your shoulders. Perform a pushup. At the top of the motion, lift your left hand and bring it out about a foot to the left on the ground. Perform another pushup with your hands staggered. At the top of the motion, explode the left hand back to normal pushup position. Perform another pushup. Repeat the move with the right hand. Continue alternating for 40 seconds.



Side plankthroughs

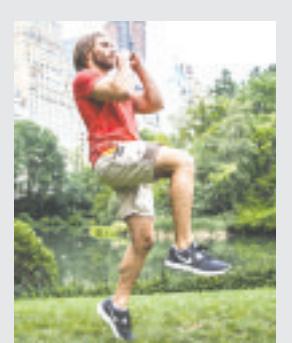
Start in a pushup position with hands directly below your shoulders. Roll to the outside edge of the right foot and stack your left foot on top of the right. Making sure that your right hand is directly below the shoulder, reach the left hand up to the sky. Keep your hips high to form a straight line from heels to head, and then reach the left hand down and behind you through the space between your torso and the floor.



Return the hand back up to the sky. Repeat for 40 seconds on alternating sides.

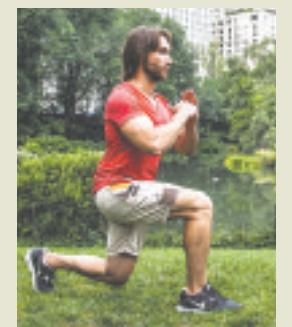
Power kicks

Stand with your feet hip-width apart. Bring your fists up just below your chin. Now, open up the chest and pull the shoulders down the back. With your core tight, alternate waist-high front kicks, springing softly from foot to foot so you're never on more than one foot at a time. Continue alternating kicks for 40 seconds.



Scissor switches

Stand with your right foot forward and left foot back. Keeping your torso upright, lower yourself into a lunge until your left knee is bent and your right thigh is parallel to the ground. Jump up and scissor your legs mid-air to land down with soft knees in a lunge with your left foot forward and your right leg back. Continue alternating for 40 seconds.



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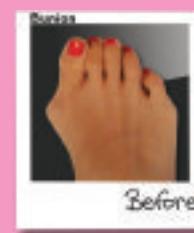
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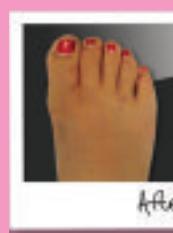
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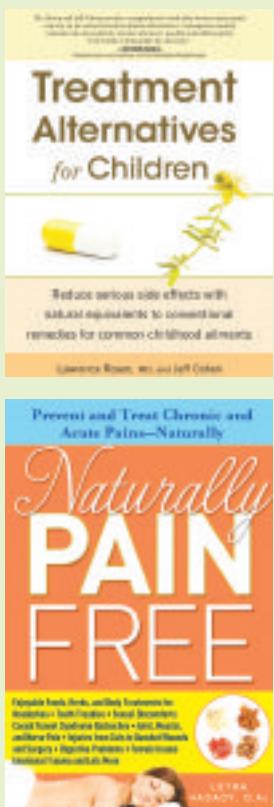
Health notes**Now on shelves**

In a world saturated by artificial flavors, pesticides and genetically engineered foods, it's no wonder that people have embraced organic produce and natural remedies for their ailments. Metro takes a look at recent health books that recommend replacing medicines invented in laboratories with more wholesome substitutes.

'Treatment Alternatives for Children' by Dr. Lawrence Rosen and Jeff Cohen

Rosen, an expert in pediatric integrative medicine, and Cohen, an author and parent of two, teamed up to compare medications with natural alternatives for kid-prone ailments like sore throats and chicken pox.

Why it's good: The authors describe the conventional remedy and treatment alternative together in an easy-to-read chart



for each sickness.

'Naturally Pain Free: Prevent and Treat Chronic and Acute Pains — Naturally' by Letha Hadady, D.Ac.

In this book, Hadady describes food, herbs and body treatments to address a wide variety of aches and pains.

Why it's good: Hadady has organized the book by type of pain and equally emphasizes both prevention and healing once pain occurs. She also provides recipes for natural concoctions to alleviate discomfort.

'The Healing Remedies Sourcebook: Over 1000 Natural Remedies to Prevent and Cure Common Ailments' by Dr. C. Norman Shealy

Shealy gives the scientific and common names for items with healing properties and directs the reader to these items through a listing of ailments at the back of the book.

Why it's good: Shealy draws from a wide base of potential treatments, such as folk and home recipes, herbalism, aromatherapy, vitamins and

minerals.

'Meals That Heal Inflammation' by Julie Daniluk, R.H.N.

Daniluk, the host of Oprah Winfrey Network's "Healthy Gourmet," suggests an array of recipes to reduce inflammation associated with illnesses ranging from allergies to heart disease.

Why it's good: Daniluk includes diagnostic quizzes so readers can discover what their issues are and explains through charts and text why her methods are effective. Daniluk isn't recommending a diet that must be strictly followed in order to see results; she lets the readers choose what works for them.

'Herbal Antibiotics: Natural Alternatives for Treating Drug-Resistant Bacteria' by Stephen Harrod Buhner

In this second edition, Buhner portrays herbs as a means to fight bacteria, as infections become more antibiotic-resistant.

Why it's good: Buhner references more than 1,200 studies in this tome, which is more than three times the size of the first edition.  KILLIAN YOUNG

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Letters

letters@metro.us

Rights? Gays don't need no basic civil rights! Right?

RE: "GAYS HATE THOSE WHO OPPOSE THEIR RIGHTS!" (METRO, AUG. 23) Ms. Weisenburger, I totally agree! All us anti-gay people want to do is deprive a minority group of their basic civil rights, and for some reason they keep getting uppity about it!

Sure, they may only be asking for rights that would elevate them above the level of second-class citizens in a way that wouldn't AT ALL affect the rest of the population. AND sure, they may not be protesting free speech, but rather institutionalized discrimination. Still, I will never stop fighting against their equality. I think it's about time us anti-gay folks stand up for

what the Founding Fathers would've wanted: basing laws on antiquated religious ideologies.

GEORGE WALLACE, VIA E-MAIL

The first rule of LGBT agenda: There is no LGBT agenda

Those unenlightened souls who supposedly champion free speech can't seem to grasp the fact that we LGBTers have no "agenda." We just desire the same basic rights as any heterosexual couple and refuse to be treated as second-class citizens.

It's not a sin to love another person; so how, exactly, will impeding our happiness benefit ANYONE, regardless of orientation?

BRENDAN SPILLANE, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Across

- 1 Dilatory
- 5 Weight deductions
- 10 Pac-10 team
- 14 Nonsense verse writer
- 15 Type of coffee
- 16 Extreme damage
- 17 — Khan (var.)
- 18 Flora and fauna
- 19 Dingy
- 20 Failed to clear
- 22 Quadratic equation, e.g.
- 24 Kind of instinct
- 25 Untold centuries
- 26 Tag
- 29 Vocalist — Sumac
- 32 Carthage neighbor
- 36 Kind of tradition
- 37 Like some arguments
- 39 Mil. rank
- 40 Beatles transport (2 wds.)
- 43 "Hydrocarbon" suffix
- 44 Jungle scavengers
- 45 BNSF driver
- 46 Caterpillar, for one
- 48 Utter
- 49 Jargon
- 50 Memorable decade
- 52 Mjr. leaguer
- 53 Sable kin
- 57 Not man-made
- 61 Mountain refrain
- 62 Karate studios
- 64 Carryall
- 65 "Soapdish" actress
- 66 Archaeology finds
- 67 Plenty, to a poet
- 68 Finishes a skirt
- 69 Aerie builder
- 70 Treat an icy road

Down

- 1 Hunk of marble
- 2 Construction toy
- 3 Waikiki setting
- 4 Alaskan range
- 5 Yak's home
- 6 Like the Mojave
- 7 Guanabara Bay port
- 8 Is, in Avila
- 9 Fossil rock
- 10 High-priority
- 11 Street edge
- 12 Fibber
- 13 "Foxfire" author — Seton
- 21 — de-sac
- 23 Brie's tray-mate
- 26 Trustworthy
- 27 Ice hockey venue
- 28 Harvest machine
- 29 Oui and da
- 30 Hawaii's — Loa
- 31 Cornered (2 wds.)
- 33 Frosting
- 34 African river
- 35 Caution
- 37 Road map info
- 38 911 responder
- 41 Windy City airport
- 42 Detours
- 47 Kills a bill
- 49 Easel display
- 51 MacDowell of "Groundhog Day"
- 52 Out of style
- 53 Netting
- 54 Liniment target
- 55 Baba au —
- 56 Vending machine buy
- 57 Ex-NFL coach Chuck —
- 58 Gossipy Barrett
- 59 Nefertiti's god
- 60 Lascivious
- 63 Keep in shape

Shove donkeys and elephants out of the legislature's zoo

We are all aware of the presidential election that is to be held in November. We should also be aware that there is very little difference on important issues between President Obama and Mitt Romney. They both confirm that they would continue the suicidal massive government spending and intervention that would send our country in the same direction as Greece and other spendthrift nations. Each believes that, as president, he may start wars at will and may shred the Constitution's protections against surveillance, torture and indefinite detention. No matter who is elected, our country contin-

ues down the same path. The best way to get our country back is to elect constitutionalists to the legislature.

JANET McCARTHY, FLUSHING, N.Y.

Capitalist reality too heavy for boat

RE: "CAPITALIST BOATS TUG OTHERS WITH THEM" (METRO, AUG. 27) Capitalism is like Communism — better in theory. Since Americans have embraced Reaganomics, we have seen an insane increase in CEO pay and an everlasting extension of tax cuts for the wealthiest. Seem like the tide is quite high and "capitalistic boats" are not tugging, but drowning people in their wake. Perhaps when those at the top trickle money down to employees and the economy as supply side implies, we will truly see what Capitalism can accomplish. Until then, prepare to keep throwing expensive floatation devices — and lots of them.

JAMIE MINTON, VIA E-MAIL

Horoscope

1 ♀ Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22. It behooves you to follow your instincts when it comes to your business dealings. If nothing more, use these perceptions as support for your logical assessments.

2 ♈ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23. Make it a point to take some of the slack out of a fading friendship that you haven't had much time for lately. There are few things more valuable than good chums.

3 ♉ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22. The race is likely to be won by the smartest, not necessarily the swiftest, when it comes to a career matter. Be sure to use that thinking cap of yours, so you don't trip over your own feet.

4 ♊ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21. If you're alert, you have a good chance of learning something extremely important from a good friend. However, what's said should be restricted to the parties involved.

5 ♋ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19. Your determination in pursuing your objectives is impressive, but equally important is that others recognize your intentions and make it a point to get out of your way.

6 ♌ Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 19. If you believe it is necessary to make a difficult decision that everyone else is putting off, have the courage to stick

to your guns and do so.

7 ♍ Pisces Feb. 20-March 20. This is likely to be the day when you promised yourself you'd embark on carefully laid out plans. If you know each step you must take, there isn't any reason why you shouldn't succeed.

8 ♎ Aries March 21-April 19. By staying in the middle at all times, you'll fare much better in your dealings with friends. If you're smart, you won't let it be known which side you really think is right.

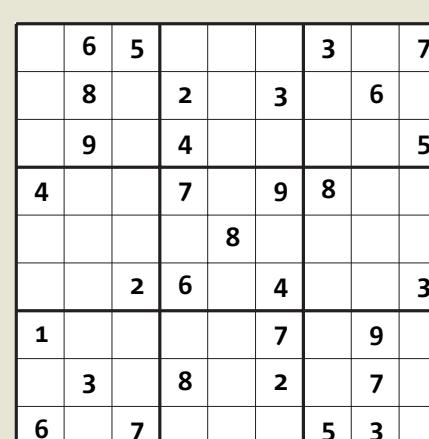
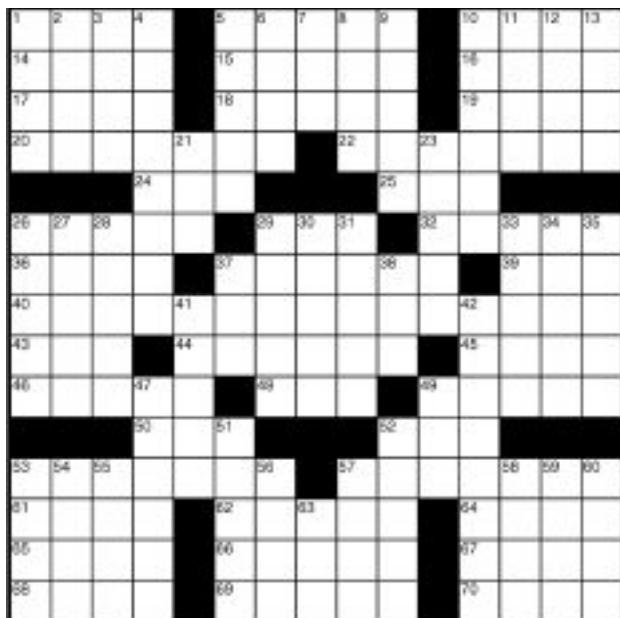
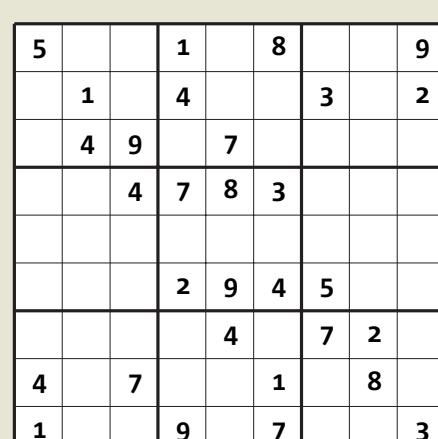
9 ♏ Taurus April 20-May 20. Spare yourself from calling in an expensive repairman by exercising preventive maintenance. If you play it safe, you won't be sorry.

10 ♐ Gemini May 21-June 20. Be sure to include an extremely introverted, shy friend in your plans. If the invitation doesn't come from you, it isn't likely to be issued at all because no one else will think of it.

11 ♑ Cancer June 21-July 22. The entire clan is likely to profit when the shopping duties are put in your hands. Your caring nature makes you very attentive to everyone's needs.

12 ♒ Leo July 23-Aug. 22. You should take advantage of the opportunity to clear the air with a friend when the opportunity presents itself. Don't hesitate to talk it out in detail until both parties are satisfied.

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Tebow takes charity to MetLife field

On Sunday night against the Panthers, Jets quarterback Tim Tebow completed just four of his 14 passes for 55 yards with one interception, good enough for a passer rating of 13.7. But when the lights dimmed at MetLife Stadium, Tebow made his most important pass of the night.

Following the game, Tebow quietly slipped onto the field to toss the football with a young person in a wheelchair, all part of his "Wish 15" program under the auspices of the Tim Tebow Foundation.

"It was a special kid that is going through something tough who is part of our Wish 15 program, like we do every week," Tebow told Metro. "It's just fun once all of you all clear out, just to get a chance to spend time with him, his family."

"Those moments are about the kids, their families — putting a smile on their face and giving them inspiration," Tebow said. "It's not about anyone else knowing."

• KRISTIAN DYER

Ojomo capitalizing on opening

It's déjà vu all over again for the Giants, as for the second consecutive preseason, injuries remain the top story.

"I love it when you ask me if I'm concerned," head coach Tom Coughlin said gruffly when asked if the accumulating injuries cause sleepless nights. "I don't know. No, I'm not concerned. If anything drives you nuts in this business, it's that stuff."

"I wouldn't be surprised if I went out and had a couple more sacks this game."

OJOMO, ON WHETHER HE'S BEEN A SURPRISE THIS PRESEASON

Coughlin's crankiness could be attributed to the fact that instead of discussing the

injuries, he'd rather talk about the guys who are filling in.

One guy looking to improve his standing on the depth chart tonight is Adewale Ojomo. The 6-foot-4, 270-pound rookie free agent from the University of Miami leads the team in sacks this preseason and has certainly caught the coaches' eyes.

"There's some real good guys giving you little tips," Ojomo said of veterans like Justin Tuck, Osi Umenyiora and Jason Pierre-Paul. "But I also learn from just watching them on film. It pretty much gives you an edge on everybody else because this is one of the best defensive lines in the NFL ... I've been working with Tuck a lot and there's a lot of technique that goes into it. Just working with those guys I came a long way."

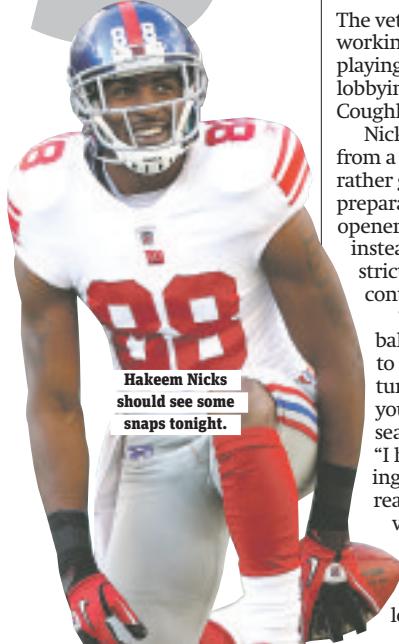
• METRO/TW

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3

STORYLINES TO WATCH

- Preseason Week 4: Giants vs. Patriots, MetLife Stadium
- When: 7 p.m., NBC ► Next: Season opener, Dallas (Sept. 5)



1 The possible return of Hakeem Nicks

The veteran wideout is still working his way back into playing shape and has been lobbying head coach Tom Coughlin to see some action.

Nicks, who's returning from a broken foot, said he'd rather get real game action, in preparation of next week's opener against the Cowboys, instead of the comfy and restricted confines of a non-contact practice.

"Being able to catch the ball and knowing you have to make a real move and turn it on a little bit before you have to play the real season is good," said Nicks. "I have fresh legs, so testing it a little bit, having to really get a good release versus some real legit coverage, and going against [another] team, that's what I'm looking forward to."

2 Can anyone step up from a depleted secondary?

Injuries (Prince Amukamara's ankle, Jayron Hosley's toe, Tyler Sash's ankle and Terrell Thomas's knee) and roster cuts (Antwaun Molden, Brandon Bing and Chris Horton) have cut into the depth of the secondary unit.

Starter Corey Webster won't see much action either, so Big Blue will be taking a long look at who can positively contribute. Look for veterans like Michael Coe and Bruce Johnson to get considerable playing time and be tested by a deep Patriots' receiving corps that can go as many as nine deep. They will likely be needed early in the regular season too.

3 Learn some new names on the roster

There may be a plethora of banged-up players that we'll only see in street clothes tonight, so for those filling in, it's their time to shine.

If Nicks can't go, look for players like Ramses Barden,

Jerrel Jernigan,

Domenik

Hixon and even

camp standout

David Douglas

to get long

looks to see if

they can be a

viable third wideout.

Linebackers Michael Boley and Mathias Kiwanuka will likely sit out, meaning guys like Greg Jones, Spencer Paysinger and Mark Herzlich will all get a considerable amount of snaps.



TONY WILLIAMS
sports@metro.us

In the news



Cooley cut

Maybe the biggest cut of the preseason came yesterday as the Redskins said goodbye to veteran tight end Chris Cooley.

Cooley had been with Washington for his entire eight-year career. He had 33 touchdowns with the team, but struggled with injuries last season and played in just five games.

Both the Giants and Jets could be interested, as they are each struggling with injuries at tight end.

Roddick hopes for birthday gift at Open

Andy Roddick turns 30 tomorrow, which is the equivalent of being a senior citizen on the men's tennis tour.

Asked what he wants for his birthday, the 2003 U.S. Open champ cracked, "I just want to be around [at the Open] until next week. That's all I want for my birthday. Then I'll renegotiate."

Roddick passed his first test yesterday, knocking off 21-year-old former University of Tennessee star Rhyne

Williams, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4, thanks to 20 aces, one of which peaked at 141 mph.

"I haven't hit 140 for about three years so that was nice," said Roddick.

With the Big Three of Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray heavily favored to dominate this tournament, Roddick is an extreme long shot to add a second major championship to his trophy case.

He faces hard-serving Australian Bernard Tomic next and could potentially face 2009 Open champ Juan Martin del Potro in the fourth round.

"You play your second



round, try to win your second round," Roddick said. "You go as far as you want. Or as far as you can."

With Federer, Djokovic and Rafael Nadal winning 29 of the last 30 majors, an American man hasn't captured one since Roddick's Open title in 2003.

"I think the game has changed a lot," Roddick said. "You probably were able to get two feet under you and kind of launch the ball a lot more than I had a massive serve at 135, and this kid today was hitting them that big. I think the game has gotten significantly better since then."

• ADAM ZAGORIA

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A-Rod on track for return

Alex Rodriguez's rehab from a fractured left hand has so far included throwing a football in the outfield, making throws from third base that test his agility and range, and hitting in a batting cage.

Four hours before yesterday's game, he added live batting practice to his routine.

Facing live pitching for the first time since getting injured in Seattle on July 24, Rodriguez took three rounds of approximately 15 swings apiece.

During those rounds, he hit four home runs while spraying some line drives to all parts of the outfield and having a few

Status quo

Mark Teixeira's Grade 1 left calf strain remained the same less than 24 hours after fouling a ball off his leg.



► "I hope not," Teixeira said of going to the DL. "I talked to [Brian Cashman]. Obviously it's up to Cash and the team because God forbid if someone else goes down. We're playing two men short."

fly balls bounce off the fence. After each round he consulted hitting coach Kevin Long and third base coach Rob Thomson.

"Good, so far so good, another good hurdle [cleared]," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said he does not have a target date for returning, but doctors have assured him the hand is healing well.

"You just have to think big picture," he said. "When I come back I want to come back at full strength. I'm a force in the middle of this lineup and I want to help this team win and hopefully give us a shot in the arm."

This is the third straight sea-

son Rodriguez has been on the DL heading into September.

Last year, he was sidelined following knee surgery and when he returned, Rodriguez injured his thumb and batted .196 the rest of the season.

"You can say it's a similar situation, but you have to remember he hurt his thumb right when he came back," manager Joe Girardi said. "I don't want him to hurt his thumb this year. I think when he's healthy he's going to be fine."

LARRY FLEISHER
sports@metro.us



► The Yankees' record is 16-15 since Rodriguez was injured in Seattle on July 24.

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of LLC upon whom process

against it may be served.

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Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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Market watch



CHEAPEST
\$149K
21 Ave. C
The cheapest unit listed this week is a 700-square-foot, one-bedroom co-op at 21 Avenue C. This property, which is subject to HDFC rules, is listed by the owner for \$149K.



PRICIEST
\$31M
170 E. 80th St.
The most expensive unit to hit the market this week is a mansion with nine bedrooms at 170 E. 80th St. This townhouse, which features a wine cellar, a cascading waterfall and a spa lounge, is listed by Blu Realty Group for \$31M.

STREET EASY
StreetEasy.com is a New York-based real estate information portal that aggregates the most comprehensive set of sale and rental listings along with other useful info.

at home with metro

In NYC suburbs, sales are up but pricey houses struggle

While activity is on the rise on lower-end homes, pricey houses in Long Island, Westchester, Bergen County and Connecticut are sitting on the market. One major factor for the trend is the credit crunch.

Last year, Long Island broker Maggie Keats worked with a young family looking for houses in Sands Point priced up to \$2.5 million. But the family didn't buy anything — and when they started looking again this spring, they'd changed their price point.

"They said, 'We've reevaluated our budget. If we'd bought last year we could have spent that much, but we just don't feel comfortable doing that now,'" said Keats, who works in Prudential Douglas Elliman's Manhasset office.

In late June, her clients finally bought a Sands Point home, paying around \$1.8 million for a slightly smaller house.

After a prolonged real estate slowdown, housing markets in NYC suburbs are finally starting to see a recovery. But while luxury Manhattan homes are currently selling faster than more modestly priced properties, the opposite is true in many suburbs. While activity is on the rise for cheaper suburban homes, pricey houses in some of these areas — especially those with long commutes into the city — are sitting on the market, brokers said.

Suburban homes priced between \$2 and \$3 million have seen "a clear drop-off in sales activity this year to date," said Jonathan Miller, CEO of Miller Samuel Appraisers.

That trend is particularly ap-

parent on Long Island, which saw just 44 sales priced between \$2 and \$3 million from January to mid-June of this year, down from 61 in the same period in 2011, according to data compiled by Miller.

Long Island, as well as Fairfield and Westchester counties, have also had fewer properties priced over \$3 million trade this year (although the total number of transactions for all three areas has increased).

One major reason for this trend is the continuing credit crunch. Many high-end buyers are young families moving from Manhattan, with one or both parents working on Wall Street. Five years ago, these buyers would have put a 10 to 15 percent down payment towards their purchase; today, they're required to put down 30 percent, or even as much as 50 to 60 percent, brokers said.

"A lot of the architects we work with have mentioned that they're building houses between 4,000 and 6,000 square feet, versus 8,000 to 10,000 square feet [during the boom]," said Alison Bernstein, head of the Suburban Jungle Realty Group, which works with buyers leaving the city for suburbs in Connecticut, Long Island, New Jersey and other areas.

"People are being more conservative," she added. "They don't want to risk everything if something happens."



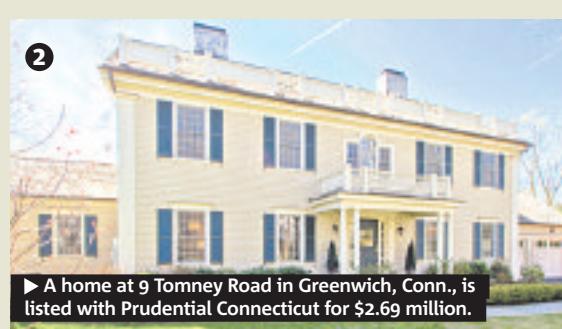
► A home at 1 Cross Road in Bedford, N.Y., is currently on the market with Houlihan Lawrence for \$2.07 million.

On the market in the city's pricey suburbs

To get a sense of how high-end homes are faring in various communities, *The Real Deal* checked in with brokers in some of the city's most sought-after suburbs.

1 On Long Island, sales of homes priced between \$2 million and \$3 million have fallen nearly 30 percent year-on-year, despite an overall uptick in the number of sales in the area, according to Miller's data. (He noted that his data comes from the Multiple Listing Service of Long Island, which focuses mostly on Nassau and Western Suffolk counties.)

2 In Connecticut's Fairfield County, sales climbed 9.4 percent in the first six months of



► A home at 9 Tomney Road in Greenwich, Conn., is listed with Prudential Connecticut for \$2.69 million.



► A home at 30 Lookout Circle in Larchmont, N.Y., is on the market for \$2.39 million.

2012, according to Miller. But average prices dropped 9.3 percent to \$618,185, from \$681,467 at this point in 2011. And the area has seen a steep drop in homes priced over \$3 million, with 31 houses trading so far this year, down 40 percent from 52 in the first half of last year.

3 In Westchester County, the average price of a home sold so far is \$782,077, down from \$802,414 at this time last year, according to Miller. That's despite the fact that a total of 1,611 homes have traded this year, up from 1,476 in the first six months of 2011. So far this year, 29 Westchester homes priced over \$3 million have sold, compared to 32 last year.

TheRealDeal.com is a daily blog and monthly magazine covering real estate in the New York metro area.

THE REAL DEAL

Hot product

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There's a reason those of us with multiple pets, multiple kids or some unholy combina-

tion of both happily lug around Dyson vacuum cleaners. Long the gold standard in industrial-strength sucking, they have an endless hunger for cat hair, tumbleweeds and Cheerio dust. Dyson's latest model, however, is the best of both worlds: Weighing in at only five pounds, the cordless

(yes, cordless) Dyson Digital Slim is a nimble little tool that packs 20 minutes of battery-powered, no-tangle suction.

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By now, you may have noticed the mini farmers markets spilling out of your neighbors' windows boxes, down their steps and across their tiny backyards. The farm-to-table trend has hit home, even in cramped city quarters, thanks to creative container gardening.

Herbs and leafy vegetables, such as lettuce or chard, are perfect for growing in containers as long as they can get some sunlight and TLC, says Alice Edgerton of Graceful Gardens, an organic gardening company in Philadelphia whose specialties include "edible land-

scapes." With a little extra maintenance, tomatoes, peppers and eggplants can work well, too. (If you haven't already started your garden, check out nurseries for some preplanted produce.)

"It's possible to grow a ton of food in containers, so that is often the easiest bet if you are a renter," Edgerton says. "But you probably need to give up your dreams of growing anything sprawling, like watermelons or pumpkins."

Whether you're planning for next year or are in the midst of maintaining your finicky tomatoes, Edgerton shares

these tips for your pint-sized farm.

Choose a container

"You can plant in pretty much anything — plants don't care if they're in a coffee can or a Ming vase," says Edgerton.

Make sure whatever container you choose has drainage holes and wasn't used to store anything toxic that could seep into your veggies. Knowing how spaced-out your seeds or plants should be will determine how big a container you need.

Water, water everywhere

"You need to water more than



► Alice Edgerton of Graceful Gardens specializes in "edible landscapes."



► Just beet it: You can grow way more than herbs in containers.

you would planting in the ground," Edgerton says. "You can have the best soil and light, but if you don't water, you're not going to have too much fun."

She recommends elevating the container off the ground to help drain excess water. On a deck, place something under the container to catch any liquid and avoid damaging the wood.

 RACHEL VIGODA
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